

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/549,579
Response to OA dated January 15, 2008

REMARKS

Claims 19-21 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. New Claim 22 is added. New Claim 22 includes original Claim 21 written in independent form and also the feature of original Claim 20. The Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added. It is believed that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated January 15, 2008.

In the Office Action, Claims 1-18 were indicated as being allowed. Claim 21 was objected to but it was stated that it would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. It is believed that new Claim 22 should thus be allowable.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102:

Claims 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Gileta (U.S. Patent No. 5,113,882). Reconsideration and removal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the cancellation of Claims 19 and 20, it is believed that this rejection is moot.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Claims 1-18 and 22, as amended, are believed to be patentable and in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

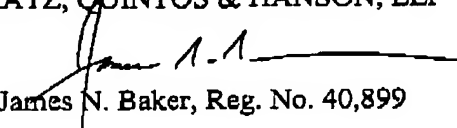
If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

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In the event that this paper is not timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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